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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HUY THANH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/722,165

Applicant(s)

MOROTOMI ET AL.

Examiner

HUY T. NGUYEN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-6,8-9,12 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi et al (5,887,193).

Regarding claims 1, Takahashi discloses a recording and/or reproduction apparatus (VTR or CD or camera) (Figs. 1, 3) column 2 lines 20-40) for recording and/or reproducing data onto and/or from a storage medium, comprising:

recording and/or reproduction means (VTR , digital camera or CD) for recording and/or reproducing data onto and/or from the storage medium ;

communication means (4,20) for communicating with an external apparatus (media controller) (column 2, lines 20-40, column 6, lines 36-55) ;

storage means for storing operation screen information corresponding to said recording and/or reproduction means (Fig.14)

transmission control means for controlling said communication means to transmit the operation screen information to the external apparatus (column 13, lines 45-58);

discriminating means (Fig. 17); and

control means operable when said communication means receives operation information to the operation screen information displayed on the external apparatus for controlling said recording and/or reproduction means in accordance with the operation information (columns 13, lines 59 to column 14, line 17, Fig 19).

Method claim 26 corresponds to apparatus claim 1. Therefore, method claim 26 is rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, Takahashi teaches the recording and/or reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said communication means is capable of communicating with the external apparatus through a network using a predetermined communication protocol (column 8, lines 5-12).

Regarding claim 3, Takahashi teaches the recording and/or reproduction apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said communication means is capable of communicating with the external apparatus through the network using the internal protocol (column 8, lines 15-22).

Regarding claim 4, Takahashi teaches the recording and/or reproduction apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said communication means is capable of communicating with a personal computer through the network using the internet protocol (column 8, lines 15-22).

Regarding claim 5, Takahashi teaches the recording and/or reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage means stores graphical user interface information to be used to remotely control said recording and/or reproduction means from the external apparatus (column 9, lines 7-17, Fig. 20).

Regarding claim 6, Takahashi teaches the recording and/or reproduction apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said storage means stores the graphical user interface information at least of a reproduction instruction button, a recording instruction button and a reproduction stop button (column 9, lines 17-20, Fig. 20).

Regarding claims 8 and 9, Takahashi further teaches that the recording/reproducing apparatus (camera media device 2) receiving image and sound data from an image pickup means and a microphone (column 7, lines 55-68).

Regarding claim 8, Takahashi teaches the recording and/or reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising image pickup means (camera) for photo electrically converting an optical image of an image pickup object into image data, and wherein said recording and/or reproduction means stores the image data into the storage medium.

Regarding claim 12, Takahashi further teaches display means for displaying image data reproduced from the storage medium by said recording and/or reproduction means (Fig. 36 or camera view finder).

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Humpleman (6,288,716).

Regarding claim 7, Takahashi fails to teach that the graphic interface is described in html format. Humpleman teaches a system for controlling devices using graphic user interface described in a HTML format (column 6 lines 10-45, column 8, lines 9-42). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi with Humpleman by using a format means as taught by Humpleman with the apparatus of Takahashi for described the graphic user interface in a HTML format thereby enhancing the function of the graphic user interface when

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the external apparatus is a computer used for controlling the recording/ reproducing apparatus .

5. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Shigenobu (JP10075424A).

Regarding claims 10 and 11, Takahashi fails to teach that the recording and/or reproduction means compresses the image data in accordance with the MPEG system and compresses the sound data in accordance with the ATRAC system.

Shigenobu teaches an recording/ reproducing apparatus using a image pickup means and a microphone for generating image and sound and a compressing mean for compressing image in accordance with a MPEG system and sound accordance with an ATRAC system . It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi with Shigenobu by using a compressing means as taught by Shigenobu with the recording/ reproducing apparatus of Takahashi for compressing the image in accordance with MPEG and sound in accordance with ATRAC systems .

It would have been obvious to on of ordinary sill in the art to modify Takahashi with Shigenobu by using a recording/ reproducing apparatus of Shigenobu as an alternative to the recording/ reproducing means of Takahashi for recording the compressed the image and sound thereby reduce the size of the medium .

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6. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Nonaka (EP 0955635A).

Regarding claim 13, fails to teaches that wherein said recording and/or reproduction means records and/or reproduces data onto and/or from an optical disk on which first tracks formed from a wobbled track which is wobbled on the opposite side faces thereof and a non-wobbled track which is not wobbled on the opposite side faces thereof are formed from ones of lands and grooves and information is recorded on second tracks formed from the others of the lands and the grooves positioned between the wobbled track and the non-wobbled track.

Nonaka teaches a recording/ reproducing apparatus for recording information on the land positioned between wobbled track and non -wobbled tracks (Fig. 1) . It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi with Nonaka by using a recording/ reproducing means as taught by Nonaka for recording the information between Wobbled track and non wobbled track order to efficiently use space on disk to record the information .

7. Claim 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Maeda et al (5,559,780) .

Takahashi fails to teach updating the program stored in the medium . Maeda teaches a recording apparatus having control means for updating the program stored in the medium (column 7, lines 60 to column 8, line 50). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi with Maeda by using a control

means as taught by Takahashi with the apparatus of Takahashi for updating the stored program thereby enhancing the apparatus of Takahashi .

8. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Chihara (JP 10-269757) (US 6,678,462 B1 to Chihara corresponding to JP 10 269757 is used as English translation).

Regarding claim 16, Takahashi discloses a recording and/or reproduction apparatus (VTR or CD or camera) (Figs. 1, 3) column 2 lines 20-40) for recording and/or reproducing data onto and/or from a storage medium, comprising:

recording and/or reproduction means (VTR camera or camera or CD) for recording and/or reproducing data onto and/or from the storage medium ;

communication means (4,20) for communicating with an external apparatus (media controller) (column 2, lines 20-40, column 6, lines 36-55) ;

storage means for storing operation screen information corresponding to said recording and/or reproduction means (Fig.14)

transmission control means for controlling said communication means to transmit the operation screen information to the external apparatus (column 13, lines 45-58); and

control means operable when said communication means receives operation information to the operation screen information displayed on the external apparatus for controlling said recording and/or reproduction means in accordance with the operation information (columns 13, lines 59 to column 14, line 17, Fig 19).

Takahashi fails to teach means for discriminating a type of the external apparatus and means for changing a format of the read out databases in the discriminating result.

Chihara teaches an apparatus having a control means for detecting a type of a display apparatus and means for converting the image stored in a medium to a format can be displayed by the display apparatus (column 9, lines 35-55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi with Chihara by providing the apparatus of Takahashi with control means as taught by Chihara for detecting the type of the external apparatus and for changing the format of the data read from the apparatus thereby enhancing the function of the apparatus of Takahashi to change the format of the data when needed .

Method claim 27 corresponds to apparatus claim 16. Therefore method claim 27 is rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claim 16.

Regarding claims 20-21, Takahashi teaches the recording and/or reproduction apparatus further comprising image pickup means (digital camera) for photo electrically converting an optical image of an image pickup object into image data, and wherein said recording and/or reproduction means stores the image data into the storage medium.

Regarding claim 24, Takahashi further teaches 12. A recording and/or reproduction apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising display means ((display of the digital camera or monitor (Fig. 36) for displaying image data reproduced

from the storage medium by said recording and/or reproduction means (See Takahashi, Fig. 36)

9. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Chihara ((JP 10-269757) as applied to claim 16 above, further in view of Shigenobu (JP1007542A).

Regarding claims 22 and 23, Takahashi fails to teaches that the recording and/or reproduction means compresses the image data in accordance with the MPEG system and compresses the sound data in accordance with the ATRAC system.

Shigenobu teaches an recording/ reproducing apparatus using an image pickup means and a microphone for generating image and sound and a compressing mean for compressing image in accordance with a MPEG system and sound accordance with an ATRAC system . It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi with Shigenobu by using well known means for compressing the image in accordance with MPEG and sound in accordance with ATRAC systems as taught by Shigenobu with the apparatus of Takahashi for compressing the image data and sound thereby reducing the size of the medium .

10. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Chihara ((JP 10-269757) as applied to claim 16 above, further in view of Nonaka (EP0955635A1).

Regarding claim 25, Takahashi fails to teaches that wherein said recording and/or reproduction means records and/or reproduces data onto and/or from an optical disk on which first tracks formed from a wobbled track which is wobbled on the opposite side faces thereof and a non-wobbled track which is not wobbled on the opposite side faces thereof are formed from ones of lands and grooves and information is recorded on second tracks formed from the others of the lands and the grooves positioned between the wobbled track and the non-wobbled track.

Nonaka (EP0955635A1) teaches a recording/ reproducing apparatus for recording information on the land positioned between wobbled track and non - wobbled tracks (Fig. 1) . It would have been obvious to one o ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi with Nonaka y using a recording/ reproducing means as taught by Nonaka for recording the information between Wobbled track and non wobbled track as an alternative to the recording method of Takahashi .

11. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Chihara (JP 10-269757) and Kimura (JP 10-187380 A)

Regarding claim 17, Takahashi as modified with Chihara fails to specifically wherein said discrimination means extracts an identifier representative of a type of the external apparatus from the transmission request information and discriminates the type of the external apparatus based on the extracted identifier.

Kimura discloses an apparatus (computer) having a communicating means for communication means with an external apparatus (printer) and for receiving requested from the external apparatus and extracting the identifier of the external apparatus and setting processing model for the external apparatus .

It would have been obvious to of ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi as modified with Chihara with Kimura by providing the external apparatus with a identifier and transferring the identifier together with the request to the recording apparatus thereby accurately changing the format of data from the storage medium corresponding to the external apparatus .

Regarding claim 19, Takahashi as modified with Chihara further teaches when said discrimination means discriminates that the external apparatus is another recording and/or reproduction apparatus of the same type as that of said recording and/or reproduction apparatus, said transmission control means controls said communication means to transmit image data read out from the storage medium to external apparatus (See Chihara , column 9, lines 35-55).

12. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al (5,887,193) in view of Chihara (JP 10-269757) and Kimura as applied to claim 17 above, further in view of Humpleman (6,288,716).

Regarding claim 18 , Takahashi fails to teach that the graphic interface is described in html format . However it is noted that using storage means for storing

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graphic use interface data described in html format for a computer is well known in the art .

Humpleman teaches a system for controlling devices using graphic user interface described in a HTML format for a computer (column 6 lines 10- 45, column 8, lines 9-42).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Takahashi as modified with Chihara and Kimura with Humpleman by using a format means as taught by Humpleman with the apparatus of Takahashi for described the graphic user interface in a HTML format when discriminating that the external apparatus is a computer thereby enhancing the function of apparatus of Takahashi to properly transmit the data corresponding to the type of external apparatus .

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments filed 21 June 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In Remarks, applicant argues that the recording/ reproducing apparatus of Takahashi is not a portable recording/ reproducing apparatus . In response the examiner disagrees. It is noted that Takahashi teaches the recording/ reproducing apparatus is a portable recording / reproducing apparatus since Takahashi teaches that the recording / reproducing apparatus is a digital VTR or a CD player (Figs. 15-17).

In Remarks , Applicant argues that Takahashi as modified with Chihara does not teach discriminating means. In response, the examiner disagrees. It is noted that Chihara at column 9, lines 35 -55 teaches means for discriminating the type of an external apparatus .

Conclusion

14. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7378. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on (571) 272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

H.N


HUU NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER